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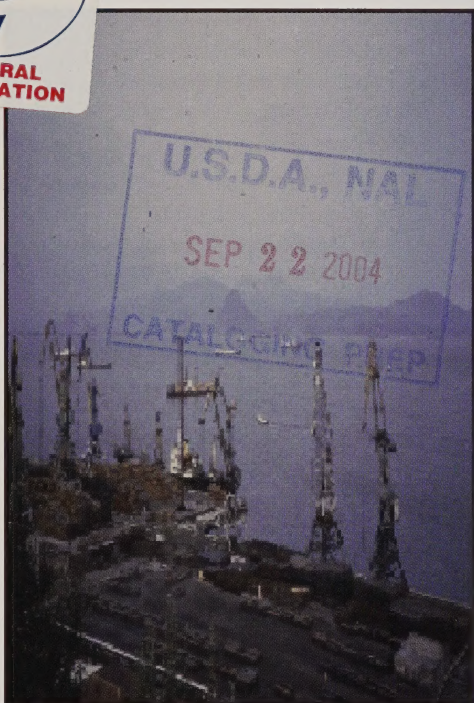
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Russia & United States Lymantriid Monitoring Program



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United States Department of Agriculture
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Intermountain Region
Ogden, Utah



USDA APHIS



Russia and United States

In 1993, a cooperative program was initiated by Russia and the U.S. to develop an early warning system to alert ports in the U.S. and other cooperating countries of increasing forest pest populations in Russia's Far East. Eight Russian Far East Ports participate, including the three major ports of Vladivostok, Nakhodka, and Vostochnyy.

This effort was developed as an International Forest Pest Exclusion Program that focuses on reducing the risk of introduction for three Lymantriid species (Asian Gypsy Moth, *Lymantria dispar*, Nun Moth, *L. monacha*, and the Rosy or Pink Gypsy Moth, *L. mathura*). All three species could become significant pests of hardwood and conifer forests if introduced into countries where these forest defoliators are not present. Other countries cooperating in this effort are New Zealand, Canada, Australia, and Chile.



Female Gypsy Moth.

States Lymantriid Monitoring Program

A variety of techniques are used to track populations of the three forest pests. Pheromone traps, burlap bands to sample larval development and light traps are used to monitor insect development or track flight periodicity.

Project Goals

- ◆ Understand the biology and behavior of the three forest pests.
- ◆ Identify pest pathways or modes of travel and develop measures to mitigate the risk of new introductions.
- ◆ Develop and improve methods of technology transfer between cooperating countries.
- ◆ Annually produce a database that identifies periods of risk for ship traffic within monitored ports.
- ◆ Maintain a database of all ships in ports during high risk periods.
- ◆ Develop monitoring procedures that reduce costs and improve effectiveness.
- ◆ Expand the program to include other cooperating countries.

Accomplishments

- ◆ Project has successfully developed a monitoring protocol and database that depicts various periods of low-high risk for all three species.
- ◆ Annually determines Lymantriid population densities in forested areas adjacent to ports.
- ◆ A data base has been developed for ships in Russian ports during the high risk period. The data base is shared among the cooperating countries.
- ◆ Russian ports now diminish port lighting during high risks periods to reduce egg mass deposition.
- ◆ The State Plant Quarantine Service of Russia has improved inspection protocols and issues Phytosanitary certificates.
- ◆ Developed pheromone and trap array for *L. mathura*.



*Russian Plant Inspector
conducting egg mass
search.*

Cooperators

The four cooperating agencies have developed a unique working relationship to address forest defoliators in Russia's Far East and prevent their introduction into other countries. The USDA Forest Service-Forest Health Protection, USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Russian Center of Forest Health and State Plant Quarantine Service of Russia, have provided funding and technical support that has significantly reduced new introductions of native Russian Lymantriids. The Primorsky Forest Health Protection Center and the Far East Forestry Research Institute have also significantly contributed to this program.



Russian and New Zealand entomologists checking milk carton pheromone trap for Asian gypsy moth and nun moth adult males.

Program Highlights

As a result of this program, no new infestations of the three Lymantriid species from Russia ports have been observed in any of the cooperating countries.

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